

Bob Warden

Title: Why DIGITAL? Its only 1's and 0's

We still seem to be fighting the war over the value of digital information some 30 years after its introduction to the public. Developments in technology have occurred so rapidly that skepticism of new technology has replaced the skepticism we held of technologies just ten years ago. In heritage disciplines, concerns over use of computing shifted to concerns over 3d which has now shifted to concerns about data types. All of these concerns were and are valid. This presentation will explore through case studies, the history of digital heritage documentation faced by the Center for Heritage Conservation at Texas A&M with commentary on issues of concern and our position on those concerns. We will discuss early work on Gothic buildings in southern France, a WWII battlefield in Normandy, Maya archaeology in Belize, and work on Alcatraz.

BIO

Robert Warden is Professor of Architecture at Texas A&M University and Director of the Center for Heritage Conservation. He holds degrees in Electrical Engineering, Architecture, and Philosophy and has been working in heritage documentation since 1985.